

News Briefs

Electrical Safety Fair

“Watt is Electrical Safety?” is the theme of this year’s annual Electrical Safety Fair. The fair will be held from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday, May 23 in the Bldg. 30 lobby, auditorium and north overhang. Plenty of handouts will be given, and there will be challenging ways of winning a ‘special’ prize. The grand prize is a framed shuttle photograph signed by astronauts. Free popcorn, free drawings, free advice and free literature—all of which is designed to reinforce what people already know and help them learn what they do not know about the safe handling of electricity will be available. For more information call Rindy Carmichael at x45078.

Student winners to be honored

Twenty-seven students from public and private schools across the U.S. have won national recognition in NASA’s 17th annual Space Science Student Involvement Program competition and one winner will spend this summer at JSC. Students in grades 9-12 competed for a one-week internship with their teacher/advisor at a NASA facility. Maureen Morgan, of Parma, Ohio, will intern at JSC with scientists and engineers working on the International Space Station.

Antimatter clouds, fountains discovered in Milky Way galaxy

Scientists using data from an instrument on NASA’s Compton Gamma Ray Observatory have discovered two unexpected clouds of antimatter in the Milky Way galaxy which scientists call “antimatter annihilation radiation.” Instruments point to the existence of a hot fountain of gas filled with antimatter electrons rising from a region that surrounds the center of the Milky Way galaxy. The nature of the furious activity producing the hot antimatter-filled fountain is unclear, but could be related to massive star formation taking place near the large black hole at the center of the galaxy. Other possibilities include winds from giant stars or black hole antimatter factories.

Discovery missions earn more study

In the first step of a two-step process, NASA has selected five proposals for detailed study as candidates for the next missions in the agency’s Discovery Program of lower-cost, highly focused scientific spacecraft. The proposed flights would send spacecraft to study Mercury, the atmosphere of Venus, the moons of Mars, comets and the solar wind.

New store opening in Bldg 3; updates under way in Bldg 11

The Employee Activities Association is building a new employee store in Bldg. 3 and making improvements to the current store in Bldg. 11.

The new store opened its doors Monday with a grand opening planned in late May once all the store’s elements are in place.

“We’ve had to make a lot of changes over the last year to operate in the black,” said Harvey Hartman, chairman of the JSC Exchange Council. “The new employee store is a part of the Exchange’s effort to improve services in this cost-cutting time.”

The design strategy for Bldg. 3 was to create an employee store with an emphasis on services. For example, the retail team is in the process of negotiating a UPS package counter, a floral agreement and a magazine and newspaper deal. Also, they expect to sign a contract with a national photo processing lab. The overall price structure for processing should easily beat most pharmacies, grocery and some discount stores. JSC’s photo lab reports that the retail team has negotiated a very good deal in terms of quality and price.

Besides new services, employees

will find apparel, children’s items, books, CD ROMs, special occasion gifts for retirements and holidays like Mother’s and Father’s Day plus a lot of other surprises. In addition, the retail team is making progress in negotiations with Hallmark and other greeting card vendors.

The Bldg. 11 store will expand to provide magazines, photo processing, greeting cards and some of the new merchandise popular in Bldg. 3. Lighting enhancements and other facelifts also are in work.

“The Exchange is excited about the new store opening and the updates to Bldg. 11,” said Teresa

Sullivan, the Exchange Operations manager. “We think we’ve picked a winning mix that will offer popular services and products. We’re always open to merchandise suggestions and adjustments from our customers. We want our stores to be a big success.”

Grand opening of the Bldg. 11 store will be announced later in May. In the meantime, new items will be coming in every day. Currently, the retail team is working on it’s grand opening campaign that will include a computer “silent” auction, discounts on photo processing, and other special offerings.

JSC creativity, expertise play role in new pyramid

Moody Gardens’ new Discovery Pyramid—which will showcase the ideas and efforts of many JSC employees who banded together to assist with the Galveston outreach project—will open to the public June 7.

The new edifice is the result of consultations between the museum and JSC volunteers who lent their creativity and space expertise to the project, which began just one year ago.

Civil service and contractor workers will receive a “sneak preview” opportunity to view the results of the collaborative educational outreach effort May 29-31 when they can take advantage of a 2-for-1 ticket offer. Coupons, redeemable at Moody ticket outlets, will be made available at JSC in the coming weeks.

Construction of the new pyramid, which is in the shadow of the larger

Rainforest pyramid, is nearly complete. The exhibit contractor, Southwest Museum Services of Houston, was expected to begin installing exhibits this week.

The first-floor attraction of the new pyramid will be an IMAX Ridefilm Theatre, which will be premiering the “Asteroid Adventure” film. The second floor will house the human space flight exhibits developed in consultation with the JSC team, which have been built around the futuristic theme of “Living in the Stars.” The exhibits will include a full-motion simulated hologram of historical figures such as Leonardo Da Vinci and Albert Einstein explaining the discoveries that have made human space exploration possible. Other exhibits will focus on the future of human space flight, with sections on living in space, space travel, destinations and NASA’s future.



Cosmonaut praises new Russian suit’s flexibility

(Continued from Page 1)

around the Mir, was installed near a pair of similar experiments attached to the Docking Module by STS-76 space walkers Linda Godwin and Rich Clifford 13 months ago. A short time after its installation, the OPM was activated and was reported to be in good working order.

The Mir Environmental Experiment Packages will be retrieved by veteran cosmonaut Vladimir Titov and astronaut Scott Parazynski during a space walk outside of *Atlantis* during the STS-86 mission to the Mir in September. Titov will become the first Russian to conduct a space walk wearing a U.S. suit during that excursion.

With their first task completed, Linenger and Tsibliev returned to the cargo crane and slowly swung back to the Kvant-2 module, where they installed a meter to monitor radiation levels around the Mir. Video of the space walk, downlinked to the Russian Mission Control Center by Flight Engineer Alexander Lazutkin inside Mir, showed the two space walkers operating with care near the Mir’s delicate solar arrays as they worked to the timeline crafted over the past year.

Linenger and Tsibliev then retrieved a pair of micrometeorite and debris particle collection experiments from the exterior of Kvant-2 which had been left outside last year by Mir 21 cosmonauts Yuri Onufrienko and Yuri Usachev. The experiments were returned to the Kvant-2 airlock where they will be stowed before being brought back to Earth.

Finally, at 5:08 a.m. CDT, after five hours outside Mir, Linenger and Tsibliev returned to Kvant-2 and repressurized the airlock to complete the space walk. It was Tsibliev’s sixth excursion outside Mir in his two flights dating back to 1993.

Gen. Yuri Glazkov, deputy director of the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center in Star City, outside Moscow, congratulated Linenger and Tsibliev for their performance following the completion of the space walk for which they had trained for more than a year. In a post-space walk debriefing with flight controllers, Tsibliev again praised the new spacesuits, particularly the helmet visors and the flexibility of the shoulders, arms and knees, which enabled him and Linenger to move with relative ease outside the station.

Tsibliev plans two more space walks outside Mir with Lazutkin in late June and early July to erect an experiment platform on the Spektr module and to prepare valves on the outside of the Core Module for later work designed to add a second carbon dioxide removal system to the outpost.

The crew members relaxed on Wednesday after the space walk before resuming their scientific agenda and their search and repair of a small cooling loop leak in the Kvant-1 module. Otherwise, the Mir’s systems continue to operate normally as plans proceed for the launch of *Atlantis* in mid-May to deliver U.S. astronaut Mike Foale to the complex to replace Linenger.



Photo above by Sharon Cordes, JSC Photo below S97-05714 by Steve Candler

PHOTO WINNER—Above: Sharon Cordes of Center Operations won the JSC Earth Day overall photo contest with her photo of a mule deer at the Waterton Lakes National Park in Alberta, Canada. Other winners included second place overall, Bill Dwyer of Engineering; third place overall, Dwyer and Melissa McKinley of Center Operations; best local photo, Ginger Gibson of Center Operations; and best Earth Day theme photo, Scott Lazaroff of Engineering. Below: Engineering’s Doug Ming shows JSC’s effort in advanced Life Support and recycling in space.



MCC open for STS-84

The Mission Control viewing room will be open for JSC and contractor employees and their families during portions of the STS-84 mission.

Employees must wear their badges and escort family members through the lobby of Bldg. 30 South. Children under five will not be permitted. No flash photography or loud talking will be permitted. Because of

the dynamic nature of shuttle missions, viewing hours may be changed or canceled without notice.

Viewing rooms hours will be posted in the Daily Cyber Space Roundup and recorded on the Employee Information Service as soon as they become available. The Employee Information Service number is x36765.

NBL facility dedication set

All JSC civil service and contractor employees are invited to attend the official opening and dedication of the Sonny Carter Training Facility Neutral Buoyancy Lab from 10 - 11 a.m. Monday, May 19, at the NBL.

The program will include remarks by U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas, NASA Associate Administrator Mike Mott, JSC Director George Abbey and Space and Life Sciences

Director David Short. A tour of the state-of-the-art NBL will be offered following the ceremony.

Attendees are encouraged to ride the JSC Shuttle bus—Route B. An additional bus will be added to the schedule so that buses will run every 20 minutes beginning at 8:05 a.m. at Bldg. 1. There will be no parking available at the SCTF.

For more information call Pam Adams at x35599.

‘Take time to be a leader,’ Stonecipher urges

(Continued from Page 1)

National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics in 1950 at Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory (now Research Center) and in 1958 worked on the planning team to organize the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. He

moved to Houston and the new Manned Spacecraft Center in 1964 and served here as deputy director.

Following the fatal Apollo 204 fire, Low became manager of the Apollo Spacecraft Program Office, overseeing preparations for the successful lunar landing program. He later

became NASA deputy administrator and retired in 1976 to become president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Stonecipher urged those in the audience to follow Low’s example and pay careful attention to the leadership aspects of their jobs.

“All of you in this room are really involved in making history. You’re making history and moving frontiers that are truly difficult to move,” he said. “Please take time to be a leader. It will be a heck of a lot more fun and it will be a heck of a lot more effective in the end.”



The Roundup is an official publication of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas, and is published every other Friday by the Public Affairs Office for all space center employees. Deadline for the submission of articles is Friday, three weeks before the desired date of publication.

The Roundup office is in Bldg. 2, Rm. 181. The mail code is AP2. The main Roundup telephone number is x38648, and the fax number is x45165. Electronic mail messages may be directed to khumphri@gp301.jsc.nasa.gov or kschmidt@gp301.jsc.nasa.gov.

Editor Kelly Humphries
Managing Editor . . . Karen Schmidt